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IDENTICAL LETTERS DATED 3 OCTOBER 1999 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you that violations of Iraq's airspace by United States and British aircraft based in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey continued between 22 and 30 September 1999 and that the aircraft in question engaged in acts of aggression, reconnaissance activities and acts of provocation, as set forth in the annex hereto.

You are requested to intervene with the United States, the United Kingdom and the countries that provide the facilities for these acts of aggression, namely Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey, with a view to bringing a halt to actions that, as flagrant violations of the Charter of the United Nations and of international law, pose a threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Iraq.

These actions are continuing to bring death and injury to hundreds of civilians and to cause serious damage to private and public property. The logistic support that Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Turkey provide to the United States and British forces makes them key partners in the aggression being committed against Iraq, so that they share international responsibility for the consequences of these actions. The Republic of Iraq affirms its right to seek lawful compensation for the damage being inflicted on its people by these same actions.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Saeed H. HASAN
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Violations by United States and British aircraft and damage caused, 22-30 September 1999

1. In the northern region 60 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 6,000 to 12,000 metres over the following cities and towns: Dohuk, Ninawa, Amadiyah, Tall Afar, Irbil, Zakho, Baibo, Rawanduz, Sinjar and Aqrah.

2. In the southern region 375 sorties were flown at speeds of 720 to 780 kilometres per hour and at altitudes of 9,000 to 13,000 metres over the following Iraqi cities and towns: Nasiriyah, Samawah, Basrah, Amarah, Artawi, Jalibah, Salman, Hashimiyah, Suq al-Shuyukh, Nu'maniyah, Kut, Qal'at Sukkar, Rifa'i, Ushbayjah, Shinafiyah, Hayy, Ali al-Gharbi, Ali al-Sharqi, Afak, Rumaythah, Taqtaqanah, Diwaniyah, Najaf, Shatrah, Ansab, Busayyah and Qurnah.

3. At 1233 hours on 22 September 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Turkish territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. They carried out 20 missions from Turkish airspace, were supported from there by an AWACS command and control aircraft and overflew the Mosul, Irbil, Dohuk, Tall Afar, Rawanduz, Aqrah and Amadiyah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1545 hours, drove them off.

4. At 1800 hours on 24 September 1999 United States and British F-15, F-16 and Tornado aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 20 missions from Saudi airspace, were supported from there by an AWACS command and control aircraft and overflew the Ansab area. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1830 hours, drove them off.

5. At 2050 hours on 25 September 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15 and F-16 aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 60 missions from Saudi airspace, were supported from there by an AWACS command and control aircraft and overflew the Artawi, Busayyah, Nasiriyah, Shatrah, Suq al-Shuyukh, Rumaythah, Hayy, Rifa'i, Qal'at Sukkar, Ali al-Sharqi, Afak, Diwaniyah, Lasaf, Najaf, Ushbayjah and Salman areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2225 hours, drove them off.

6. At 2005 hours on 26 September 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They were supported by an AWACS early-warning aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and also an E-2C aircraft. They carried out 31 missions and overflew the Busayyah, Salman, Samawah, Nasiriyah, Qal'at Sukkar, Lasaf, Hayy, Ali al-Sharqi, Rifa'i, Ushbayjah, Diwaniyah, Basrah and Amarah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2200 hours, drove them off.

7. At 1205 hours on 26 September 1999 United States and British aircraft coming from Turkish territory and supported from there by an AWACS early-warning aircraft penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. The aircraft were F-14s and F-15s. They carried out 18 missions and overflew the Zakho, Dohuk, Mosul, Tall Afar, Irbil, Amadiyah, Aqrah, Baibo and Rawanduz areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1507 hours, drove them off.

8. At 1215 hours on 27 September 1999 United States and British aircraft coming from Turkish territory and supported from there by an AWACS early-warning aircraft penetrated Iraq's airspace in the northern region. The aircraft were F-14s, F-15s, F-16s and Tornadoes. They carried out 22 missions and overflew the Zakho, Dohuk, Mosul, Tall Afar, Irbil, Amadiyah, Sinjar and Aqrah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 1440 hours, drove them off.

9. At 0131 hours on 27 September 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, Tornado and EA-6B aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 130 missions, 100 from Saudi territory and 30 from Kuwaiti territory, and were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and an E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Samawah, Salman, Najaf, Diwaniyah, Nasiriyah, Hayy, Kut, Nu'maniyah, Hashimiyah, Jalibah and Busayyah areas. Six civilian residents were wounded, one resident's dwelling was destroyed, and a school in the village of Zabaniyah was damaged. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2210 hours, drove them off.

10. At 0015 hours on 28 September 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18 and Tornado aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 118 missions, 54 from Saudi territory and 64 from Kuwaiti territory, and were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and an E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Ushbayjah, Shinafiyah, Salman, Nasiriyah, Rifa'i, Shatrah, Taqtaqanah South, Amarah, Basrah, Samawah, Artawi, Qurnah, Ali al-Gharbi, Hayy and Afak areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2325 hours, drove them off.

11. At 1300 hours on 30 September 1999 United States and British F-14, F-15, F-16, F-18 and Tornado aircraft coming from Saudi and Kuwaiti territory penetrated Iraq's airspace in the southern region. They carried out 16 missions, 10 from Saudi territory and 6 from Kuwaiti territory, and were supported by an AWACS command and control aircraft from inside Saudi airspace and an E-2C aircraft from inside Kuwaiti airspace. They overflew the Jalibah, Artawi, Salman, Busayyah, Ushbayjah, Nasiriyah, Samawah, Rifa'i, Qal'at Sukkar, Rumaythah, Lasaf, Kut, Shatrah, Hayy, Shinafiyah and Taqtaqanah areas. Our air defences, acting in self-defence, engaged the aircraft and, at 2325 hours, drove them off.